



"The best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time"- Abraham Lincoln. I've been using this quote this week to remind people around me that we can only check things off our to-do lists one day at a time. The world feels overwhelming right now, and we can only make progress if we focus on things we control. Moving to the purple tier as we enter the holidays is adding stress and concerns that affect all of us and our families. National City relies on us to provide essential services that keep our

community safe and healthy. I continue to be amazed and proud of the work all of you do every day and it is certainly appreciated by the community we serve.

San Diego County and Most of the State Moved to Purple Tier

As you may know, San Diego County entered the purple tier last week, which imposes the most stringent restrictions on businesses under the state's Blueprint for a Safer Economy metric. The county has reported an increase in coronavirus cases over the past two weeks. Earlier this week, the Governor moved 28 other counties to the purple tier due to a recent significant increase in infections throughout the state and instituted a statewide requirement to wear face coverings whenever you are outside of your home, with a few exceptions. Our staff has been in the field this week providing updated information on purple tier regulations to local businesses as well as information on how best to secure any outdoor canopies or temporary shelters that are in use to provide outdoor dining in case of inclement weather this fall/winter.

I would encourage you and your family to get tested if you have not already. Contact your healthcare provider or the County of San Diego which has [free diagnostic COVID-19 testing at many locations](#), including the Kimball Senior Center. These tests take about 5-10 minutes and results come back in approximately 3 days.

We cannot become complacent.

The fatigue is real, but health officials are urging us all to rally a couple more months to turn things around. Effective vaccines are on the horizon but will take time. In the meantime, we know what works: masks, physical distance, avoiding crowds, keeping gatherings small and outdoors (three households max), washing hands, and staying home if we have any COVID-19 symptoms. We are in this together. As an organization, it's more important than ever that we take care of each other and provide support for our residents and local businesses.

Telecommuting

As a reminder, the City has a telecommuting policy available for those who may need to access it, including those that may be having family issues such as difficulty accessing childcare options. Please discuss your circumstances with your Department's Director. We want to support all of our employees during COVID and provide flexibility where needed while also balancing our need to serve the public. I'm including a link to the City's COVID page [here](#) that has additional information on telecommuting and our Emergency Advance Leave policy for reference. As always, feel free to reach out to Human Resources with any questions you may have. In addition, any employee that has concerns with our current state of operations is

welcome to call or visit me to discuss. My door is always open and my phone is always on so please reach out to me directly so we can make sure everyone feels supported and heard.

November 17 City Council Meeting Summary

On Tuesday, the City Council approved a significant remodel of the kitchen at MLK to upgrade the facility to a true commercial kitchen and allow for future use through rental agreements. They also approved a contract with Bucknam Infrastructure Group to conduct a Pavement Condition Survey of the city's roadways to assess their integrity and issue recommendations for future improvements. You can view the Council meeting video [online](#).

November Birthdays

COVID has brought many challenges to both our professional and personal lives including how we celebrate those we care about. Although we're unable to physically gather and celebrate the 24 employees with a birthday this month, we hope they feel the warmth of our birthday wishes. Click on [this link](#) for a list of the November birthdays and take a moment to reach out to your coworkers and wish them a very happy day.

Together We Can! - Code Enforcement

The Code Enforcement and Housing Inspection team inspects for violations of city ordinances regulating public health, safety, and welfare, and business licensing. The team has more than 50 years of municipal and law enforcement experience, nearly all here in National City!



(Housing Inspector Alex Cordova, Code Officers Gilbert Sarmiento & Ronny Soriano;
not pictured: Code Officer Sean Watson)